

PASSIVE THERMAL SWITCH

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A passive thermal switch assembly simply, easily, and inexpensively controls electronic system component temperatures within normal operating ranges during normal system operations, and reduces heat dissipation from the system during a cold startup, to thereby enable a relatively rapid component temperature rise. The passive thermal switch includes a heat pipe and a thermally activated switch coupled to the condenser end of the heat pipe. The switch thermally couples and decouples the heat pipe from a heat sink based on the temperature of a contact within the switch.